United Nations A/C.2/66/2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 October 2011

Original: English

Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 19 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Letter dated 4 October 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As you know, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also referred to as "Rio+20", will be held in June 2012 in Brazil, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 64/236.

The Second Committee of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the chairmanship of Abulkalam Abdul Momen, will discuss the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development under agenda item 19 (a). The discussions will lead to the adoption of a resolution on the modalities of the Conference, including its organization of work.

The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference met on 12 September 2011 and has prepared a set of recommendations for the organization of work of the Conference. We are pleased to transmit these recommendations to the Second Committee (see annex), inviting it to consider them for possible inclusion in the final resolution.

We are therefore requesting that the attached recommendations be circulated as a document of the Second Committee of the General Assembly under agenda item 19 (a).

(*Signed*) John **Ashe**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations
Co-Chair of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee

(*Signed*) **Kim** Sook
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations
Co-Chair of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee

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Annex to the letter dated 4 October 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Recommendations of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for consideration by the Second Committee of the General Assembly of the resolution to be adopted on the modalities of the Rio+20 Conference

The Second Committee of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly is invited to consider the following recommendations, inter alia, while finalizing the resolution on the modalities of the Rio+20 Conference.

- The Conference programme should consist of:
  - Six high-level plenary meetings, including the opening and closing meetings.
  - A total of four high-level round tables, each delegation participating in only one round table.
- All round tables could cover the same overarching theme — looking at the way forward in implementing the expected outcomes of the Conference.
- The Chairs/Co-Chairs and Rapporteurs of the round tables should be chosen in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution.
- The outcomes of the round tables should be reflected in the summaries of the Rapporteurs, which should be reported to the Conference at the closing plenary meeting and included in the final report of the Conference.
- In accordance with the decision taken by the Preparatory Committee at its second meeting, the costs for providing interpretation and other conference services in support of the preparatory process, including the negotiating process of the draft outcome document should be met. Resources already allocated for the twentieth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development should constitute an integral part of the required resources.